

## **PINK BOLLWORM PROGRAM – WEEKLY REPORT**

42 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COTTON GROWERS



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Week Ending May 23, 2009

### **Pink Bollworm Activities**

#### **Southern California:**

Test kits to test cotton plants for the *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) gene have been ordered to complete the required cotton testing for the 2009 cotton crop. Testing will begin next week. Sterile release in the Palo Verde Valley is expected to begin next week.

No native PBW moths have been trapped in Imperial Valley cotton or okra in 2009. A total of eleven native PBW moths have been detected in highway-line traps in the Imperial Valley compared to nine in 2008.

Sterile moths have been released in Imperial and Riverside Counties for the last five weeks. The total to date is 1,300,000 of which 8,154 or 1.25% were recaptured.

#### **San Joaquin Valley:**

Mapping is nearly complete with only a few fields to recheck. Agricultural Pest Control Specialist Larry Olagues has been organizing the pheromone treatment of cotton fields adjacent to this years first native finds in Merced County, near Dos Palos. Pheromone ropes, stakes and other ancillary equipment has been procured. The treatment is scheduled for June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

There were a total of 8,870,334 sterile moths were released this week. This brings the seasons total released to 25,197,073. The 46 early detection traps in place have caught 1,368 sterile Pink Bollworm moths.

#### **Sacramento Valley:**

The latest heat unit projections indicate mapping and trapping will begin in mid August.